

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the present application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

By means of the present amendment, the current Abstract has been deleted and substituted with the enclosed New Abstract which better conforms to U.S. practice. Further, the specification has been amended for better conformance to U.S. practice and correction of typographical errors.

In the Office Action, claim 12 was objected to for a certain informality. Further, claims 7 and 10-11 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph as being indefinite. In response, claims 1-8 and 10-12 have been amended to overcome the informalities noted by the Examiner, as well as other informalities noted upon review of the claims, such as beginning the claim with 'The' instead of 'A', and deleting reference numerals typically used in European practice that are known to not limit the scope of the claims. Further, claim 9 has been canceled without prejudice. Claims 1-8 and 10-12 were not amended in order to address issues of patentability and Applicant respectfully reserves all rights he may

have under the Doctrine of Equivalents. It is respectfully submitted that the objection and rejection of claims 7 and 10-12 have been overcome and an indication as such is respectfully requested.

In the Office Action, claims 1 and 5-9 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. 4,812,703 (Kanematsu). Further, claims 2-3 and 10-11 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Kanematsu in view of U.S. 6,710,526 (Helbig). Claims 4 and 12 were also rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Kanematsu in view of U.S. 6,607,293 (Sanuki). In response, claims 1 and 8 have been amended for clarification and new claims 13-20 have been added. It is respectfully submitted that claims 1-8 and 10-20 are patentable over Kanematsu, Helbig and Sanuki for at least the following reasons.

Kanematsu is directed to an electric lamp assembly shown in FIG 1 having a base 400 with horizontal portions 416a, 418a of conducting plates 416, 418. These conducting horizontal portions 416a, 418a mate with slits 308, 310 upon insertion therein. Similarly, supporting pins 312 mate with openings 204a upon

insertion therein. A key projection 412 serves as positioning means upon coupling the core structure 300 with the base structure 400 (column 5, lines 53-54). Projections 414a are provided on an annular flange portion 414 whose function is not clear..

At best, the projection 414a may hold the base 400 against a fixture upon insertion of the base 400 into an opening (that includes notches to receive the projection 414a) in the fixture and then rotation of the base 400. Assuming such a characterization is correct, it is respectfully submitted that any rotation of the Kanematsu provides ONLY mechanical attachment. Any electrical contact is provided by insertion, such as inserting the conducting horizontal portions 416a, 418a into the slits 308, 310.

In stark contrast, the present invention as recited in independent claim 1, and similarly recited in independent claims 8 and 13, amongst other patentable elements, requires:

wherein the lamp base comprises contact elements electrically connected to the burner element, which elements project transversely to the longitudinal axis such that they can be brought into electrical engagement with contact means upon rotation of the lamp base. (Emphasis added)

This feature is nowhere taught or suggested in Kanematsu. Helbig and Sanuki are cited in rejecting other claims to show other

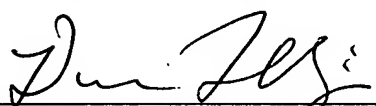
features, and do not remedy this deficiency in Kanematsu.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that independent claims 1, 8 and 13 are allowable, and allowance thereof is respectfully requested. In addition, as claims 2-7, 10-12 and 14-20 depend from independent claims 1, 8 and 13, Applicants respectfully request that claims 2-7, 10-12 and 14-20 also be allowed.

It is believed that no additional fees or charges are currently due. However, in the event that any additional fees or charges are required for entrance of the accompanying amendment, they may be charged to applicant's representatives Deposit Account No. 50-3649. In addition, please credit any overpayments related to any fees paid in connection with the accompanying amendment to Deposit Account No. 50-3649.

In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance, and a Notice of Allowance is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

By 
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Enclosure: New Abstract

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